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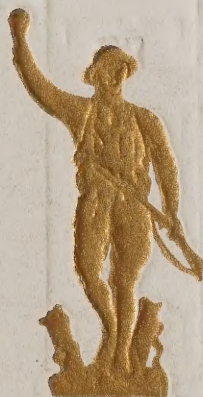
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ALLER COUNTY AND FORT WARR
TO THE GLORY OF THEIR SON

LOYALTY COURAGE

HEROIC VICTORY



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HISTORY *of the* WORLD WAR MEMORIAL

FORT WAYNE AND ALLEN COUNTY
THEIR TRIBUTE to the GLORY of THEIR SONS

1917-1918 ————— 1928

by
JAMES C. SMITH

1928

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FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Foreword

IT WILL be the purpose of this little book to present briefly the story of what has been done in Fort Wayne and Allen county, Indiana, toward memorializing all those sons of this community who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War, in 1917 and 1918.

The efforts of all those who, in the beginning recognized the desirability of erecting a permanent memorial, from the day when victory was first proclaimed, together with the efforts of all those who, with heart and hand, have labored to the consummation of that fine purpose, are gratefully acknowledged and, so far as possible, recorded and perpetuated in this volume.

In acknowledgment of these efforts, the writer dedicates this history to those of the living who have toiled ceaselessly for the past decade to the end that the project first conceived under the gilded wings of Victory might become a reality for all the years of Peace.

Their efforts, like the efforts of those whom they have striven to the best of their ability to commemorate, cannot be too highly appreciated by their comrades, by the community they served or by the Gold Star families to whom the Memorial (erected in 1928) was particularly dedicated.

MEMORIALS TO THE WORLD WAR DEAD

By JAMES G. SMITH

THE history of what has been done in Fort Wayne and Allen county in the way of a suitable memorial to those men and women who made the supreme sacrifice in the war with Germany in 1917 and 1918, dates back to the early days of the war when all the people at home were anxious to give aid to the boys over there with some kind of worthy home service work.

Only seven days after war was declared, (on April 13, 1917) the Quest club held a banquet in the Anthony Hotel, inviting any and all clubs, associations, societies, federations, religious and civic bodies, labor unions, educational and fraternal organizations, and individuals regardless of age, sex, color, nativity, religion, etc., for the purpose of centralizing and co-ordinating the efforts of all Fort Wayne and Allen county organizations along all lines of patriotic service. All that was required of those participating in this central movement was that they be citizens of the United States, of unswerving loyalty to the government of the United States.

On April 30, at the Commercial club, Mr. William Scheiman was elected president, Mr. Frank E. Bohn, vice-president, Mr. Charles R. Lane, secretary, and Mr. J. Ross McCulloch, treasurer. This body of representatives from Fort Wayne organizations with the above selected officers was known as the "Council of Patriotic Service".

Later when the National Council of Defense and the Indiana State Council of Defense were formed, Governor James E. Goodrich requested Mr. John W. Eggeman, judge of the Allen County Circuit Court, to appoint a County Council of Defense for Allen county. Judge Eggeman appointed the above officers along with Fred. S. Hunting, Rev. Arthur J. Folsom,

and Mrs. George Evans. Later Mrs. A. J. Detzer replaced Mrs. Evans who removed from the county.

Just who was the individual who conceived the idea of erecting the Fort Wayne and Allen County Victory Arch, perhaps will never be known, but the Allen County Council of Defense sponsored its erection. Mr. Griswold in his history of Fort Wayne covers the matter of the Victory Arch in these words, "The wooden arch, erected soon after the first men lost their lives in the World war was located at the southwest corner of the Court House square (Calhoun and Berry streets) spanning the sidewalk. As soon as a fatality in Europe or in the American cantonments was announced, the name was placed on one of the panels. The arch was designed by Mr. M. S. Mahurin. It was removed, some time after the armistice was signed. The cannon on the sidewalk is a piece captured from the Germans early in the war. It was sent to Fort Wayne as a means of creating interest in the war fund drives. It has been retained as a permanent piece of exhibit in the museum of the Daughters of the American Revolution."

It was planned to dedicate this memorial on September 21, 1918, in connection with the opening of the Fourth Liberty loan drive, and Mr. Arthur F. Hall, chairman of the Liberty Loan drive, had requested the Allen County Council of Defense to try to have the memorial completed on that day. Senator Albert J. Beveridge was to be in Fort Wayne on that day as the principal speaker for both events. The *Journal-Gazette* of Saturday, September 21, carried the following item: "In spite of the most strenuous endeavors, it is found impossible to complete the Liberty Memorial Arch in time for use as intended today, although the arch will stand as a monument to the end

of the war in commemoration of the deeds of the Allen county boys who gave their lives in the service of their country. All of the work on the arch is done free by the Fort Wayne Builders Exchange which includes building contractors, plumbers, electricians, carpenters, painters, sheet metal workers, and others. In the panels of the pylons will appear the names of the men who will have given their lives in the defense of liberty and progress."

The Friday and Saturday papers of September 27, and 28, 1918, carried items announcing that the dedication would be held on Saturday afternoon, September 28. They said in part: "The event will be in no wise a gala occasion, but a serious gathering of people whose hearts are filled with an appreciation of the deeds of all who have given their lives in the great struggle, and especially the men from Allen county whose names are to grace the panels of the Liberty Arch."

Mr. L. H. Moore was named chairman of the day. The arch was to stand till the close of the war. Through the courtesy of Mr. Samuel Greenland, of the traction company, all street car traffic on Calhoun street was suspended during this service.

A parade led by the Elks' Band was formed, following notice carried in the Saturday morning paper, and marched to the place of dedication. The arch, at the time of the dedication, carried the names of thirty-seven men and one woman, Miss Irene Byron, a Red Cross nurse.

Col. David N. Foster, was selected to introduce the speaker for the occasion and in doing so he made these remarks: "As I see it, one of the remarkable things about this war in which we are now engaged, is the marked militancy of the clergy of our country, common of all sects, Jew, Gentile, Catholic, and Protestant. I am asked to introduce to you one, who if it were possible, I would say is the most militant of them all. To introduce him to a Fort Wayne audience would be like introducing a father to his son, or a mother to her daughter. I will simply

present to you the Reverend Arthur J. Folsom, who is to give us the dedicatory address upon this occasion."

REV. ARTHUR J. FOLSOM'S ADDRESS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

"We have assembled here today not as those who mourn in deep sadness but as friends, loved ones, and patriots who rejoice in the final triumph of our soldiers and sailors who have made the supreme sacrifice. This beautiful arch is the symbol of victory, the bow of promise, the emblem of divine favor. We have paused in our busy life and almost ceaseless activities to dedicate this sacred monument to God, to good, and to humanity.

"Rising from its crest wave the flags of the allied nations; its panels are made sublime by the names of our heroes to whom all honor is due; its stainless white is but the symbol of the happy resurrection of all those who have gone down through the valley of the shadow of death; its graceful arch reflects the beauty of the skies that bend o'er us whispering to our hearts the love of God the Father of us all.

"We are building a new America these days, an America with a new heart and soul, throbbing with the deep consciousness of a grander, broader and higher obligation to all humanity. The dross of greed and selfishness and lust is being burned away. Our ideals have grown beautiful and sublime through the sacred dedication of our sons in every city and hamlet throughout the land to the grand and glorious cause of world wide freedom and brotherhood. We have learned full well that we are our brother's keeper, that his destiny rests in our hands, that his security and happiness and progress depend upon our kindly spirit of love and generous brotherhood.

"To this great end we are offering our sons upon the most sacred altar, and dedicating them to this most holy cause. While we stand here today, not in sorrow, and not in tears, but in the supreme joy of parents who have given their sons whom they loved better than their own lives, we are reminded that this is



Allen County's First World War Memorial Arch

At the left is pictured the first arch erected by citizens of Fort Wayne and Allen county to show their appreciation of the spirit and valor of soldiers who fought and died in the World war.

That arch of beaver board and wood, painted a spotless white was dedicated September 28, 1918. Wind, weather and soot soon soiled and dilapidated it. Persons of public spirit, before allowing its removal, however, demanded that some provision be made for a permanent arch to replace it.

That once assured, the old temporary memorial was taken away from its position on the sidewalk at the southwest corner of the court house square about March 1, 1921.

Monday, November 12, 1928, the people of this county dedicated to the memory of the soldier dead of Allen county, the bronze and marble permanent memorial, which stands in its triple arch beauty on the hill at Memorial park. A parade and solemn ceremonies were held.

Names of the heroic dead listed alphabetically appear on the new and permanent marble arch.

the highest duty of man and the noblest service any soul can render to his country and to his fellowmen.

"What a blessed privilege it has been to the loyal people of Allen county to have a vital part in the performance of our great world duty as a nation. We have not failed. We have sent our men in a most noble consecration to the supreme task of the hour. And while we deplore the loss of our men, we are not sad. While our tears flow freely for those splendid lads, we are not in despair, for the greater the sacrifice the greater the joy. And by this we are reminded that during this Fourth Liberty Loan Campaign the saddest of all things is that any man in Allen county should not do his full duty in backing up the boys we have sent to the front to save for us our freedom and our homes.

"We mourn today, not for the boys who made the supreme sacrifice, but for the people of Allen county who have not sacrificed at all, and have offered only a mere pittance to the government in this most needful hour. We sorrow for the men in city, and the men in county who are not doing their full duty. We sorrow not for the boys who offer their lives, we rejoice in them. We sorrow in shame for those who are not willing to make *any* sacrifice in these gigantic efforts to inspire all men to establish forever a world brotherhood.

"We have erected this arch for those who have already given all, and for all those who shall in the days to come lay down their lives for their country to preserve the eternal beauty of their flag—Old Glory. Thus, my fellow patriots, humbly with you, in the name of God, and His righteousness, in the name of democracy and all free institutions, in the name of all liberty and its sweet peace, I dedicate this arch to the Most High in memory of the noble sons of Allen county."

The arch stood for about two and one-half years; but before going further into this phase of it, the development of another phase should be noted. That must be brought into the

picture at this time in order that the readers may be able to see the complete story.

On April 10, 1920 the county purchased some lots between Calhoun and Clinton streets north of Superior street, from Clara Carnahan, and others for a consideration of \$155,000 which site later became known as the Victory Hall site. A civic committee of the Chamber of Commerce foresaw the removal of the temporary wooden arch, which brought about the idea of the city and county joining and building the Victory Hall, which would take the place of the municipal coliseum that the city had planned back in 1911. This committee from the Chamber of Commerce went before a special session of the Indiana General Assembly and succeeded in having passed a bill, an act authorizing the several counties and cities in the state of Indiana to provide a suitable memorial for the soldiers and sailors of the World war. This act granted levy on certain taxable properties in order that the funds might be raised for the erection and maintenance of such memorials. This act was approved as an emergency measure on July 22, 1920.

The Victory Memorial Arch was constructed of frame and "beaver board" and at various times after its dedication it was painted and minor repairs were necessary, all the labor and materials being donated. The arch was not anchored to the street, but the pillars were hollow with a floor built into them and they were filled with bags of dirt which made the monument heavy enough to resist the wind pressure. By the time this act was finally approved in the legislature the arch was in a state of very rapid deterioration and it became the consensus of opinion that the arch should be removed because of its unsightliness and danger of its falling. The public sentiment was that the spirit that brought about the erection of the arch be perpetuated in a memorial of a permanent nature, or at least provisions be made for a memorial of a permanent nature before the old arch was removed. With this in view, Councilman Harry M. McMullen, introduced a motion in the city council on December 14, 1920 requesting the president of that body to appoint a com-

mittee of three to work with the American Legion and county commissioners to either make the necessary arrangements to have the old arch repaired or to replace it with a suitable memorial. The motion was concurred in and the president appointed the following members: Harry M. McMillen, chairman; E. A. McIntosh and J. W. Reynolds. The chairman of this committee requested the American Legion to appoint a committee to work with them on the project. On January 3, 1921, Robert J. Gaskill, the commander of the American Legion for the year 1921, as his first official duty in that capacity, appointed in an executive meeting, a committee of three consisting of Robert R. Bartel, chairman, Miss Lillie M. Gerard, and Clarence R. McNabb, also stating that he would work with the committee personally. These two committees joined with the county commissioners forming a joint memorial arch committee. Mr. A. J. Baker, Henry Hilgeman, and Frank Poirson were serving as the county commissioners at that time. This joint committee along with Mayor Cutshall and Mr. Gaskill, held several meetings on the project and at a final meeting on April 23, 1921, a motion was made and concurred in that the old arch be removed and that the city and county be asked to appropriate \$2,500 each for bronze tablets to be placed in the corridors of the court house and would later be removed to the Victory Hall when it became a reality.

When it looked as though the Victory Hall would some day be a reality, a group of Wayne Township farmers, as an association, felt that the Victory Hall would be of little benefit to the county—especially to those people of the rural districts. They brought suit into the Superior court of Allen county testing the legality of the act of the General Assembly of 1920. The case was heard by William Ballou, judge of the Superior court at that time. Judge Ballou sustained the legality of the law. This, however, did not satisfy the farmers and they carried the case into the Supreme court of the state. The parties responsible for the enactment of this law, or the people interested in seeing the Victory Hall a reality, had no way or means of

getting funds to fight the case in the Supreme court and as a result the decision of the lower court was reversed. This was a long drawn out affair and while the local people interested in the project expected the Supreme court to uphold the decision of the lower court they thought it would be settled before the close of the year 1921, but the final decision was not had until the summer of 1926.

In the spring of 1928 the Indiana National Guard, through a committee composed of Herman F. Gerdorn, Oscar G. Foelinger, Ben F. Bennett, Edward H. Fisher, J. M. Stouder, Louis S. C. Schroeder and Harry M. McMillen, agreed to erect an armory in Fort Wayne if the city would provide the ground. The matter was taken into the council and after the proper legal proceedings, part of the old Victory Hall site became the property of the armory board of the Indiana National Guard in September, and as this history goes to press construction has been started on what will be known as the Fort Wayne Memorial Armory. Besides being used by the units of the local organizations of the national guard, it will also, to a certain degree, answer the purpose of a municipal coliseum.

On January 1, 1928, Mr. August Freese, Jr., became commander of Fort Wayne Post No. 47, the American Legion, and while attending a commanders' and adjutants' meeting in Indianapolis early in January, some talks were made on what was being done in other cities in the state in the way of fitting memorials to the World war dead. Commander Freese fell in line with the thought and after his return home and at the first open meeting of the Fort Wayne post on Friday, January 13, he appointed all of the standing committees for the year. With these committees he also appointed a committee to see what could be done in the way of securing a suitable and fitting memorial to the World war dead of Fort Wayne and Allen county. Knowing of the earnest efforts of two of the present membership, on the last joint memorial committee of 1921, Mr. Freese appointed Robert R. Bartel, Robert J. Gaskill, and along with

these two, Mr. Royal Roeger, giving this committee instructions to see what could be done and then report back to him.

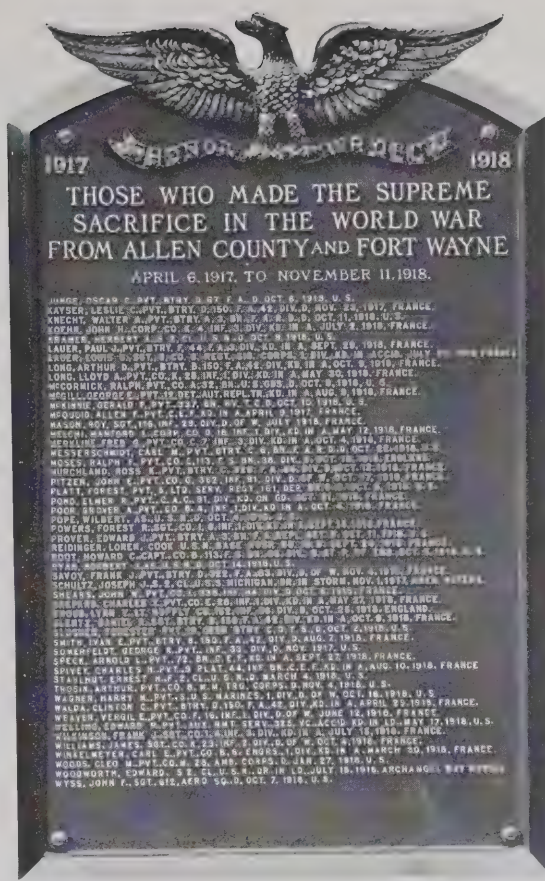
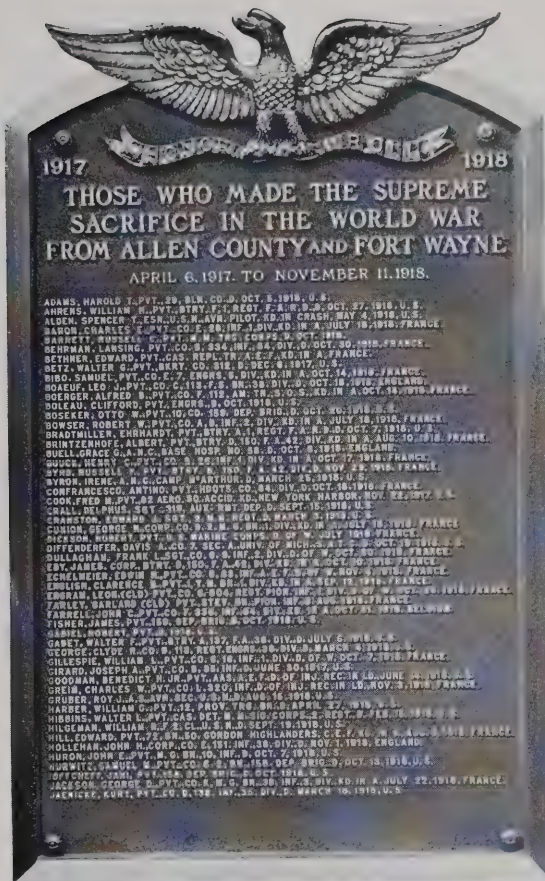
After this committee had held two or three meetings preparing data, etc., it appeared before the city council at its regular session on March 20, 1928, explaining that it had been appointed by the American Legion to see if there wasn't some way or means of procuring a suitable memorial. They told the council of the efforts of a joint memorial committee in the past and of the promise made when the old frame arch was removed and asked that the council appoint a committee to work with them on the matter. Herman F. Gerdorn, member of the common council, made a motion, seconded by J. M. Stouder, that the president appoint three members of that body to work with the American Legion on the project. The motion was concurred in and Harry M. McMillen was appointed chairman of the council memorial committee along with Herman F. Gerdorn, and Louis S. C. Schroeder, by Mr. Ben. F. Bennett, president of the council.

These two committees had a meeting on March 27, when they elected Mr. McMillen as their chairman and Robert J. Gaskill, as their secretary. The secretary was given instructions to arrange a meeting with the county commissioners as soon as possible and report back to the two committees as to the date they could meet.

A few days later, on March 31, the committees from the city council and American Legion had a meeting with the county commissioners, Jacob Gable, chairman, Orin Lake, and Charles Miller, and at this time the three bodies became known as the Allen County Joint Memorial Committee.

The county commissioners voiced their approval of what had been done and work was started in earnest by this joint body. Meetings were held from time to time, cities and counties throughout the country were written to see what had been done on this matter at other places in order that the committee might get an idea of the various types of memorials that had been

erected and at what costs. Out of approximately forty-five letters that were sent replies were received from approximately seventy-five percent, giving the types and values represented. Later the secretary sent out inquiries to monument manufacturers and bronze companies to get some more information on types of memorials and how the prices ranged. Several of these companies sent in sketches, four or five sent their representatives in person to get an idea of what the committee might be interested in. At a meeting of the joint memorial committee on June 14, Col. David N. Foster and Mr. Adolph Jaenicke, of the park board, and Mr. Angus McCoy, city comptroller, were called in for advice on the matter. At a meeting on June 21, this joint body agreed to ask for appropriations totaling \$15,000 to build a suitable memorial, and that the fund be divided equally between the city and county. They appeared before the county council on June 23, and explained what action they had taken and of their efforts in obtaining information on various types of memorials and showed the council that they were only asking for a reasonable amount of money. They made their request for an appropriation. The council voiced its approval in the matter and said that it had been called together on that day to make other appropriations and that it would have to take the matter up in a legal way at a meeting in the future which the councilmen promised would not be far away. This was on a Saturday. The following Tuesday this committee appeared before the city council in person while Councilman Harry M. McMillen, chairman, presented an appropriation ordinance for the city's share in the project. The council passed the appropriation unanimously under suspension of rules. The mayor, Mr. William Geake, was present at the meeting and after the ordinance was passed, he told the council he would sign the ordinance and voiced his whole-hearted approval of the action taken. On July 6, the county council met and appropriated the county's share in the project. At a meeting of this committee on July 25, a motion was made and concurred in, that Mr. August Freese, Jr., the commander of the local post of the American



THE BRONZE TABLETS THAT GRACE THE MEMORIAL

Designed and Erected by Brakmeier Bros., Louisville, Ky.
The information contained on the name tablets was procured by Mr. Robert R. Bartel, of the American Legion who is a member of the joint memorial committee.

Legion, he declared a member of the joint memorial committee, since in his capacity as commander of the legion he was vitally interested in the project. Mr. Creighton Williams, the park board attorney, appeared before the committee that night and submitted a copy of the legal advertisement that he had drawn up. This advertisement was accepted and ordered printed at the earliest possible date. It was published in the legal manner and on the night of August 10, bids were received by the board of park commissioners with whom this joint memorial committee met, along with Mr. John B. Wyss, president of the county council, and Mr. Angus McCoy, city comptroller. Most of the bidders submitted plans, and artistic paintings, one company submitted a model with their blue prints and a painting. After hearing the short talks by the representatives of these various firms, the park board and the joint memorial committee went into executive session and by a vote of nine to three agreed to award the contract to the Muldoon Monument company of Louisville, Ky., whose representative, Captain John J. Shawvan, was present with the model that was submitted with their bid.

The joint committee met with the members of the park board twice after the contract was let for the purpose of selecting a proper site. They visited some of the public parks and Memorial park was selected. The site in Memorial park was selected on August 18.

At a meeting of the joint committee on September 7, there was considerable discussion as to how this committee should go about arranging for the dedication of the memorial. It was decided that this was a county-wide civic affair and, to that end, invitations were sent to all the military, patriotic and civic organizations throughout the county and to all the small towns in the county, inviting them to send a representative to a meeting called for September 17 in the assembly room of the court house. When the representatives of these bodies met, they formed a general dedication committee. At this meeting the date of November 12 was selected as the day when this dedica-

tion should take place, due to the fact that Armistice day fell on Sunday this year. Committees were appointed to secure a speaker, arrange a program, invite distinguished guests, arrange transportation, secure music and decorations, and make other arrangements.

JOINT MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

City Council

Harry M. McMillen
Herman F. Gerdorf
Louis S. C. Schroeder

Robert J. Gaskill
August Freese, Jr.

County Commissioners

American Legion

Robert R. Bartel
Royal Roeger

Jacob Gable
Orin Lake
Charles Miller

Speakers Committee

August Freese, Jr., American Legion
Jacob Gable, County Commissioners
Clarence McNabb, County Attorney
William Ballou, Ex-Judge Superior Court
John H. Johnson, County Auditor.

Program Committee

Ed C. Close, Sons of Veterans
Henry L. C. Rippe, Community Council
Carl W. Rothert, Chamber of Commerce
Fred K. Myles, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Mrs. Dulcie Houck, American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Stella B. Smith, Sons of Veterans Auxiliary
Dr. E. M. Van Buskirk, Sons of American Revolution
Dr. Jessie Calvin, Daughters of American Revolution
Mrs. Shirley Nichols, Women's Relief Corps

Transportation

Harry Muller, One Hundred Percent Club
One Hundred Percent Club as an Organization
Dr. Jessie Calvin, Fort Wayne Women's Club
Adolph Welker, American Legion
Eugene Wells, American Legion
Mrs. Dulcie Houck, American Legion Auxiliary

Distinguished Guests

J. Ross McCulloch, Chairman

Arthur F. Hall	Robert Feustel
Charles M. Niezer	Oscar Foellinger
Lew Ellingham	William Noll
Dr. John H. Gilpin	Mayor Wm. C. Geake
Ben F. Bennett	John B. Wyss
Walter Goll	W. Charles Dickmeyer

Publicity Committee

Clem J. Steigmeyer, American Legion
Arthur K. Remmel, News-Sentinel
Ross Nelson, Journal-Gazette
Floyd B. Logan, News-Sentinel
Frank G. Roberts, Journal-Gazette
Mrs. Debba Hoy, Stirk Circle Ladies G. A. R.
Mrs. Emma Lee, Wayne Circle Ladies G. A. R.
Mrs. Quince, Sherman Circle Ladies G. A. R.

Decorations Committee

Adolph Jaenicke, Superintendent of Public Parks
Arthur J. Siebold, Chamber of Commerce
Henry L. C. Rippe, Community Council
Mrs. Daisy McNutt, Lawton Camp U.S.W.V., Auxiliary
Mrs. Cora Burkett, Zollinger Camp U.S.W.V., Auxiliary
Hershel Babb, Colored Veterans World War.

Small Towns and Rural Districts

Jacob Gable, Orin Lake, Charles Miller, County Commissioners.

Music Committee

Louis L. C. Schroeder, City Council
Arthur Viatt, Federation of Labor
Charles Corneille, Rainbow Division Association

Schools Committee

Father A. E. LaFontaine, Catholic Schools
Louis C. Ward, Public Schools
Wm. C. Widenhoefer, Lutheran Schools
Mrs. Vera Rohrer, Parent Teachers Council
William Burhop, Concordia College

Radio Broadcasting

Lt. J. Howard Stark, 305th Signal Battalion
Herman F. Gerdorn, City Council

Maj. H. C. Bradley, 151st Infantry, I. N. G.
John L. Anguish, Boy Scouts of America

Platform and Seating

Adolph Jaenicke, Superintendent of Public Parks
Richard Miller, Bass Lawton Post G. A. R.
James Erwin, Lawton Camp Spanish War Veterans
John L. Jones, Zollinger Camp Spanish War Veterans

Ribbon Badge Committee

Captain Cecil Metz, Salvation Army
Miss LaVon Sperry, American Red Cross
George J. Alter, Knights of Columbus
A. C. Crane, Y. M. C. A.

Reception Committee

Albert O. Pape, City Council
R. Nelson Snyder, Exchange Club
C. G. Honeck, Friars Club
Frank B. Taylor, Historical Society
Leon Mariotte, Kiwanis Club
Dr. Edward Shell, Optimists Club
E. G. Hoffman, Quest Club
Foss Smith, Rotary Club
Donald C. Thomas, University Club
J. Henry Curdes, Lions Club

Traffic Committee

Arno C. Spiegel, Board of Safety
Walter Kavanaugh, Chief of Police
Frank Longardner, Traffic Bureau
Mrs. Grace Schubert, Daughters of Veterans
Angus McCoy, City Comptroller
John C. Stahlhut, Fire Chief

Parade

Major Leonard F. Wood, Grand Marshal
Lt. Col. Charles A. Sharp, Chief of Staff
Lt. James C. Smith, Asst. Chief of Staff

Unveiling Committee

Mrs. Dulcie Houck, American Legion Auxiliary
Rev. Samuel Callen, Ministerial Association
Miss Lillie M. Gerard, Army Nurse Corps
Mrs. Sarah Trautman, Veterans Foreign Wars Auxiliary

At the second meeting of the general dedication committee it was agreed that the American Legion act as hosts to the Gold Star fathers and the American Legion Auxiliary act as hosts to the Gold Star mothers. The matter was placed in the hands of committees by these two organizations, who issued the invitations.

Mrs. Dulcie Houck from the American Legion Auxiliary was placed on the Gold Star invitations committee by the president of that organization and she did such faithful work that the chairman also asked her to arrange the matters pertaining to the unveiling. A committee had been previously selected to see that the veil was procured, etc., but Mrs. Houck was personally requested to procure the proper person, or persons to do the unveiling. This she did and their names appear on the program which is printed in this history. The speakers' committee had a hard task before them as almost all the nationally known speakers had been engaged as far back as two years ago. After being refused, for this reason, by four prominent people they succeeded in obtaining Mr. Dan Sowers, National Americanism officer of the American Legion. Mr. Sower's dedicatory address is published in this history in its place on the program. The program committee worked very hard and, after several meetings, arranged the program, including all persons except the speaker (who was obtained by the speakers' committee) and Colonel David N. Foster who was selected by the executive committee, as chairman of the day.

Meetings were held from time to time by both the general dedication committee and the executive committee. Mr. Freese was appointed as Master of Arms, at the memorial site and was to make all arrangements for the placing of the people for the ceremonies. At a meeting of the executive body, your writer was selected as the historian and given instructions to compile the history of all that had been done in Allen county in the way of memorials to those that had made the supreme sacrifice in the World war. This history was to include the old frame Vic-

tory Arch, and down to and including the dedication of the permanent memorial.

At the final meeting of the general dedication committee the grand marshal made his report by passing out the parade programs. This program including the grand marshal's order is as follows:

Having been appointed Grand Marshal of the Armistice Day Parade which will be held on Monday, November 12, 1928, I hereby assume command and the following orders are issued for the guidance of all concerned.

The Grand Marshal's Headquarters will be at the corner of Berry and Clinton streets where all Division Commanders and their Chief of Staff will report promptly at 1:30 P. M., for instructions.

The formation of the parade by Divisions are as follows: The Chief of Staff will report promptly at 1:30 p. m., for instructions. 1st Division will form on Berry street west of Clinton with the right resting on Clinton street, the 2nd Division will form on Berry street east of Clinton with the right resting on Clinton street, the 3rd Division will form on Berry street east of Barr with the right resting on Barr street, the 4th Division will form on Barr street north of Berry with the right resting on Berry street, the 5th Division will form on Clinton street north of Berry with the right resting on Berry street, the 7th Division will form on Wayne street east of Clinton with the right resting on Clinton street, and the 8th Division will form on Wayne street in rear of the 7th Division.

The parade will move promptly at 2:00 p. m., over the following route: South on Clinton street to Washington, east on Washington street to Harmar street, south on Harmar street to Maumee, east on Maumee avenue to Glasgow avenue, north on Glasgow to the Memorial Site.

The Grand Marshal and his Staff will review the parade from the corner of Maumee and Glasgow avenues.

The Division Commanders upon arriving at the park will turn their commands over to Mr. August Freese Jr., Master of Arms, who will direct them to the proper places for the ceremonies.

All Division Commanders will see that all colors and standards within their commands are massed, under proper color guard, in rear of the Division Commander and Staff.

All Marshals, Asst. Marshals, Division Commanders, and Staff
Officers will be mounted.

By Order of GRAND MARSHAL LEONARD F. WOOD,

Charles A. Sharp, Lt. Col.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL

James C. Smith, 1st Lt.,
Asst. Chief of Staff.

Motorcycle Officers
Platoon of Police
Capt. George Eisenhut, Commanding
Platoon of Firemen
Asst. Chief George Trautman, Commanding
Major Leonard F. Wood, Grand Marshal
Lt. Col. Charles A. Sharp, Chief of Staff
1st Lt. James C. Smith, Asst. Chief of Staff

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

Capt. F. H. Boucher, F.A.-U.S.A.
Henry C. Radke, Andrew G. Vetter, Walter Meibers, John Bowers

Joint Memorial Committee, in Cars
Common Council, City of Fort Wayne, Indiana
County Council of Allen County
Board of Park Commissioners, City of Fort Wayne, Indiana
Chaplains, Chairman of the Day, Speakers, etc., in Cars
Distinguished Guests and Committee
Board of Public Safety

FIRST DIVISION

Col. Ray McAdams, Commanding
Capt. George D. Kingrey, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
General Electric Co. Band
Third Battalion 151st Infantry, I.N.G.
Major H. C. Bradley, Commanding
Officers Reserve Corps
Captain Fred Dimke, Commanding
Marine Reserve Corps
Sgt. Earl Bostick, Commanding
United States Recruiting Service
Army, Sgt. John Kane Navy, C.P.O. Charles Campbell
Marine Corps, Sgt. Earl Bostick

SECOND DIVISION

Capt. Samuel D. Jackson, Commanding
2nd Lt. John L. Rosencrance, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
Gold Star Mothers and Fathers and Committee of Hosts
Members of G. A. R. in Cars
Drum Corps, Fort Wayne Post No. 47, American Legion
Vern L. Gingher, Commanding
Fort Wayne Post No. 47, The American Legion
American Legions from surrounding towns, and Veterans not
affiliated with any ex-service men's organization
August Freese, Jr. Commanding
Rainbow Division Association,
Carter I. Bowser, Commanding
Army Nurse Corps and Red Cross Nurses,
Miss Lillie M. Gerard, Commanding
Colored Veterans World War,
Sam P. Jones, Commanding
Jim Eby Post No. 857, Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Fred K. Myles, Commanding
United Spanish War Veterans, Henry W. Lawton Camp No. 35
James Erwin, Commanding
United Spanish War Veterans, Charles Zollinger Camp No. 36,
Henry Trautman, Commanding

THIRD DIVISION

Warrant Officer Clarence Mitchell, U. S. A., Commanding
Cadet Major Henry Deberer, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
Concordia College Band
Concordia Cadet Battalion

FOURTH DIVISION

William S. Jakway, Commanding
Staff Sgt. S. H. Raymond, U. S. A. Chief of Staff
Division Staff
Cafara Band
Drum Corps, Daughters of Union Veterans
O. L. Bickel Commanding
Auxiliary Fort Wayne Post No. 47 American Legion,
Mrs. Garnett Lee, Commanding
Auxiliary Jim Eby Post No. 857, V. F. W.
Mrs. Dora Carr, Commanding
Auxiliary Lawton Camp No. 35, U. S. W. V.,
Mrs. W. E. Wilson, Commanding
Auxiliary Zollinger Camp No. 36 U. S. W. V.
Mrs. Emma Epley, Commanding
Stirk Circle Ladies of G. A. R.
Mrs. Debba Hoy, Commanding
Wayne Circle Ladies of G. A. R.,

Mrs. Emma Lee, Commanding
Daughters of Union Veterans
Mrs. Eunice Chandler, Commanding
Women's Relief Corps,
Mrs. Mary Richhart, Commanding
Auxiliary Sons of Union Veterans,
Mrs. Stella B. Smith, Commanding
Sherman Circle Ladies of G. A. R.
Mrs. Quince, Commanding
Daughters of the American Revolution,
Dr. Jessie Calvin, Commanding
Children of the American Revolution,
Miss Bertha Medsker, Commanding
Sons of the American Revolution,
Dr. E. M. Van Buskirk, Commanding
Sons of Union Veterans,
Dr. E. D. Smith, Commanding

FIFTH DIVISION

Captain Paul C. Kucher, Commanding
Lt. George W. Gillie, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
News-Sentinel Boys' Band
Nurses' Training School, Lutheran Hospital,
Miss Holtman, Superintendent
Nurses' Training School, St. Joseph Hospital,
Miss Biogan, Superintendent
Nurses' Training School, Methodist Hospital,
Miss Trentman, Superintendent

SIXTH DIVISION

Oscar Foellinger, Commanding Ed. C. Miller, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
Boy Scouts of America,
Executive Officer John L. Anguish, Commanding

SEVENTH DIVISION

L. C. Ward, Commanding Mrs. Charles Goeriz, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
South Side High School Band
Parent-Teachers' Council,
Mrs. Vera Rohrer, Commanding
Public Schools
Catholic Schools
Lutheran Schools

EIGHTH DIVISION

Dr. Guy Emrick, Commanding Henry L. C. Rippe, Chief of Staff
Division Staff
Community Council

Other Civic Organizations
Salvation Army Float
American Red Cross Floats
Knights of Columbus Float
Y. M. C. A. Floats

The *News-Sentinel* of Saturday, November 10 carried a feature page, giving a bit of the history, the pictures of the joint memorial committee, a picture of the old Victory Arch, a picture of the present permanent arch, and a splendid cartoon and editorial both of which are reproduced in this history.

The Sunday and Monday issues of *The Journal-Gazette* carried full announcement of the programs and on Monday, during the noon broadcast, radio station WOWO announced that it would broadcast the ceremonies from the memorial site.

* * * * *

On Monday, November 12, 1928, at 1:30 p. m., Grand Marshal Leonard F. Wood and his staff took position at the corner of Berry and Clinton streets where some of the units of the parade had begun to form. The various division commanders reported, receiving their instructions and, very unusual for a parade of any kind, it moved away promptly at 2:00 p. m. for the memorial site. It was one of the largest parades in the history of Fort Wayne, all organizations being represented that were published on the parade program. As the parade arrived at the memorial site Mr. Al Becker, manager of both of Fort Wayne's radio stations was at the microphone, where he gave the radio audience a very vivid description of the parade, unit by unit, as it approached. The large crowd was handled efficiently and as fast as the marchers and spectators arrived they were promptly placed for the ceremonies.

Mr. Harry McMillen, in presenting the Memorial said: "During the World war the Allen County Council of Defense erected a temporary memorial arch on the court house square. After the war this arch was taken down and the Gold Star mothers were promised that the names of the men and women



on the arch would be put on bronze tablets, but for several reasons the tablets were not made.

"Last January the commander of American Legion Post No. 47 appointed a committee to act in conjunction with a committee from the city council and the county commissioners to fulfill the promise made in 1921 to the Gold Star mothers.

"The joint memorial committee selected an arch and bronze tablets designed by Capt. John K. Shawvan, who is a member of the American Legion. The Fort Wayne park commissioners let the contract for the building of the memorial arch to the Muldoon Monument Company, of Louisville, Ky.

"The city of Fort Wayne could not build a memorial large enough or grand enough to repay the Gold Star fathers and mothers, the widows and orphans, of the men and women who died in the service.

"There was nothing that this committee could do that would add to the honor and glory of the men and women who suffered and endured the hardships of war and laid their lives upon the altar of their country. In a humble way we have tried to immortalize their names in bronze.

"In behalf of the joint memorial arch committee I present to the city of Fort Wayne and Allen county this beautiful me-

morial arch and these bronze tablets upon which are cast the names of the Allen county men and women who made the supreme sacrifice in the World war.

"The memorial arch and bronze tablets have a message for all who look upon them.

"May those who look and read the names upon the tablets have a vision of the American forces in France pushing forward, always forward, until they gained their objectives and there was peace.

"May the men and women, boys and girls, who look and read, be filled with a new spirit of patriotism, a greater love of country, and a burning desire to carry on the great American principles and ideals as taught by, and exemplified by the lives of the men and women who have built the nation.

"May they also see that other World war picture of the brothers and sisters, the fathers and mothers, of the civilized world beseeching the Prince of Peace to banish the God of War from the world, and may it inspire them to promote peace and good will on earth."

After the unveiling by Mrs. John Buel, mother of Grace Buel, a Red Cross nurse, who passed away in England; Mrs. Helen Kayser Ryburg, a sister of Private Leslie Kayser, of Battery D., a Fort Wayne unit of the Rainbow division and Master Robert Lauer, son of Paul J. Lauer, killed in action with the Third division, a salute was given, the national anthem played, the colors advanced, and "*to The Colors*" sounded. Floral tributes were placed upon the Memorial Arch by various military, patriotic, and civic organizations, and at the same time flowers were strewn over the memorial from an aeroplane flown by Arch Alspach.

Captain John K. Shawvan, in talking of the symbolism of his design said: "The arch was chosen because since the days of Rome it had been the emblem of victory and this memorial is built on a plan similar to the Arch of Triumph in Paris.

"The three sections of the memorial symbolize the fighting of the World war in the three elements of nature, on land, on sea, and in the air. The monument also contains the names of the great battles in which the American soldiers fought, the bronze tablets preserve the names of those who are honored by the memorial and the gate under the main arch is the gate of triumph through which Fort Wayne and Allen county may lead in public ceremony any of her sons who are, in the future, honored for bravery.

"This memorial that we dedicate today in a large measure symbolizes the gratitude of the people of the community for what they so unselfishly did for their country in its hour of danger."

In accepting the memorial in behalf of the City of Fort Wayne, Mayor Geake said:

"We are conscious of the fact that nothing that we can say here today will add anything to the luster of their achievements, but we know that what they did on land or sea, in the air or wherever they served, attests their courage, their bravery, their self-sacrifice in that mightiest of conflicts in all human history.

"They were of the flower of the young manhood of this community. They were yet in love with life and raptured with the world, but in their country's cause they passed to silence and eternal glory. As future generations pass this way and read the names inscribed on this memorial may they ever feel and know that the people of this generation were proud of their heroic dead and have taken this humble means of ever preserving them to write the story of patriotism for future generations."

"There are two purposes which this memorial serves. One is to pay our debt of gratitude to those who served. The other is grateful remembrance.

"And now on behalf of the people of our good city I regard it a great honor to accept officially this splendid memorial, this fine contribution to the city's treasured possessions. May it

ever serve as an inspiration to all of us, and may it ever stand as a fitting tribute to the memories of those whom we have loved and lost awhile."

In accepting the memorial in behalf of Allen county Mr. Clarence R. McNabb, the county attorney, who also served in 1917 and 1918 as a captain in the army, said: "To observe and maintain the fine and sacred traditions of our national government should be the aim of all American municipalities. To strive for those ideals which have animated our forefathers and which have made America great is the solemn duty of every department and division of American government today. To revere the memory of our heroic soldier dead; to cherish their deeds of valor; to perpetuate the nobility of their service and to express in tangible form our gratitude to them is the rarest privilege which accrues to us as American citizens. In the spirit, therefore, of love, appreciation and gratitude we come here today as officers and representatives of Allen county, yes, but better yet, as a grateful, appreciative and affectionate American people.

"Ours has not been the privilege of making a supreme sacrifice for our America, but ours is now the cherished privilege of placing a permanent laurel wreath of gratitude upon the memory of Allen county's brave sons and daughters who made that sacrifice. To you, the 106 heroes and heroines who answer not, grateful Allen county now extends her sincere thanks, expresses her undying gratitude and acknowledges her eternal love.

"May this beautiful memorial bearing their respective names in marble and bronze be a source of permanent and increasing inspiration to our people and a means of perpetuating the sweet memory of your service and sacrifice.

"The people of Allen county through their authorized

agents, the board of county commissioners, have delighted in this tribute to American devotion, genuine patriotism and supreme sacrifice. On their behalf, and as the official representative of our board of county commissioners, I now accept this beautiful monument from those commissioned to construct and maintain it."

Due to the coldness of the weather, and the length of time the people had waited until the rear of the parade reached the park, Mr. Dan Sowers, who was selected to make the dedicatory address only spoke a few words, which are as follows:

"I wish to speak a word of congratulation to the people of Allen county and Fort Wayne. It is a common trait for human kind to forget. Too often we are not grateful for what is done for us.

"Eleven years ago your sons went away to answer the challenge of a mighty monarch. I can picture them giving every effort that we who live might enjoy the great blessings of America.

"I think it is well that each individual here dedicate his life to the service of America in these days of peace, and to keep faith with those who gave their all in service to their country."

The benediction and taps with an echo ended expression of the greatest homage ever paid by Fort Wayne to any group or individual.

It was decided at a meeting of the joint memorial committee early after the contract was let that the names of only those who gave their lives during the dates that the United States was in the war, namely, from April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918, would appear on the bronze tablets that would be dedicated on this day.

Thrilled ye ever with the story
How on stricken fields of glory
Men have stood beneath the murderous iron hail!

"Ten years ago tomorrow, Peace silenced the voice of myriad cannon, hoarse with roaring hateful challenges for four long, bitter years.

"The fate of nations had hung in the balance, and American valor had tipped the beam toward victory.

"The gruff growlings of bearded Mars were stilled and the rivulets of blood that streamed across the fields of France were stanchoned when the gallantry of Cantigny blossomed and bore fruit in the Argonne and was harvested before Sedan.

"The brazen throat of war was held in the steel fingers of America's will for peace and good will among the nations. The reddened bayonets of millions were stacked and the world bivouaced and rested.

"Ten years ago today, America joined the whole world in fasting and in prayer—a prayer for cessation of hostilities, a prayer for victory, over all the bloody-fanged hounds of hate destined to be muzzled on the morrow in answer to that prayer.

"The Germans, having had their last desperate lunge at Paris balked by the determined Yanks at Chateau Thierry, had been driven back through the Argonne, and cannons were thundering in Lorraine, when in a little woodland copse the emissaries of the contenders met and signed a truce which brought to an end the greatest and most frightful conflict since the world began.

"The victory over war was mutual. It was not alone a victory for Americans or French or British. It was a victory for the Germans and Austrians as well. It was a victory achieved by human valor without so much regard to uniform or flag or prejudice or historical tradition as to those cumulative ideals which all the sons of men have cherished since the Prince of Peace

first came to supplant the Caesars' empire with the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

"Tomorrow, on the tenth anniversary of the cessation of hostilities, millions of mothers throughout the world will turn their thoughts to their fine, fearless sons who bared their breasts when duty called and, with a will for peace, defended national honor, that peace might finally triumph among men and women everywhere.

"Tomorrow will find gold stars again displayed in many of our windows—gold stars defying crepe as they gleam in flag-decked settings. And while the mothers who sit before those windows will, as mothers always have done, shed tears for the stilled voices of the ruddy-faced, fair-haired sons who leaped into the breach and paid the supreme sacrifice which the imperiled flag exacted, they will lift up their hearts in prayerful thanksgiving that the flag still waves because their sons gave into its folds the last full measure of their selfless devotion—in pride that peace came because the challenge of war was hurled back by the lips of courage and duty and consecration to the ideals which make for *lasting* peace.

"On Monday, the people of Allen county will make formal dedication of a shrine in Memorial Park—a shrine consecrated to the ideals of those Allen county boys who, a decade ago, drank the last bitter draught that America might stand secure against the insidious forces which threatened her destiny as the hope and haven and refuge of the elemental forces of peace on earth, good will to men.

"That will be a fitting observance of Armistice Day—the dedication of this memorial to the sons of those Gold Star mothers who saw these fearless fellows march away resolved, determined, prepared to pay the heaviest price which war in all its dread horrors can demand.

"This memorial, builded of stone as solid and unshakable as the purpose of those whom it commemorates, will stand there in the park which has been set aside as an Elysian Field

to the glory of the heroes who went forth from this community to do and dare. It will stand there to tell that many a mother was able to dry her tears and take comfort from the achievements of her son in defense of his country—the country whose subsequent security depended upon sacrifice.

“City and county have combined to erect this shrine to the boys who fell with the salty-iron taste of blood in their throats before the chatter of death-dealing guns in far-off fields; and while it is regrettable that erection of a permanent memorial has been so long delayed, yet never could there have been a more appropriate occasion for its formal dedication than the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Armistice.

“It is greatly to be hoped that there may be a large public attendance at the ceremonies in Memorial park on Monday. It is greatly to be hoped that those of us who came through the World war spared our lives will tell our children and our grandchildren of the suspense we felt a decade ago when our nation’s

strength was pitted against the spirit of war and conquest of mankind.

“It will be well that we give warning to those who Monday will be charged to carry on and preserve the institutions which our fallen heroes defended against the menace of assault that there may be crises in the future—crises which will demand a vigilance and valor to match those of the men who paid the supreme penalty of life itself in France ten years ago.

“It will be well to remind these boys and girls of ours that a nation’s institutions are not always so seriously menaced by bayonets from without as by insidious plottings from within.

“And let us say to them:

What boots it at one gate to make defense,
And at another to let in the foe?

—*Wm. J. Gross in News Sentinel.*

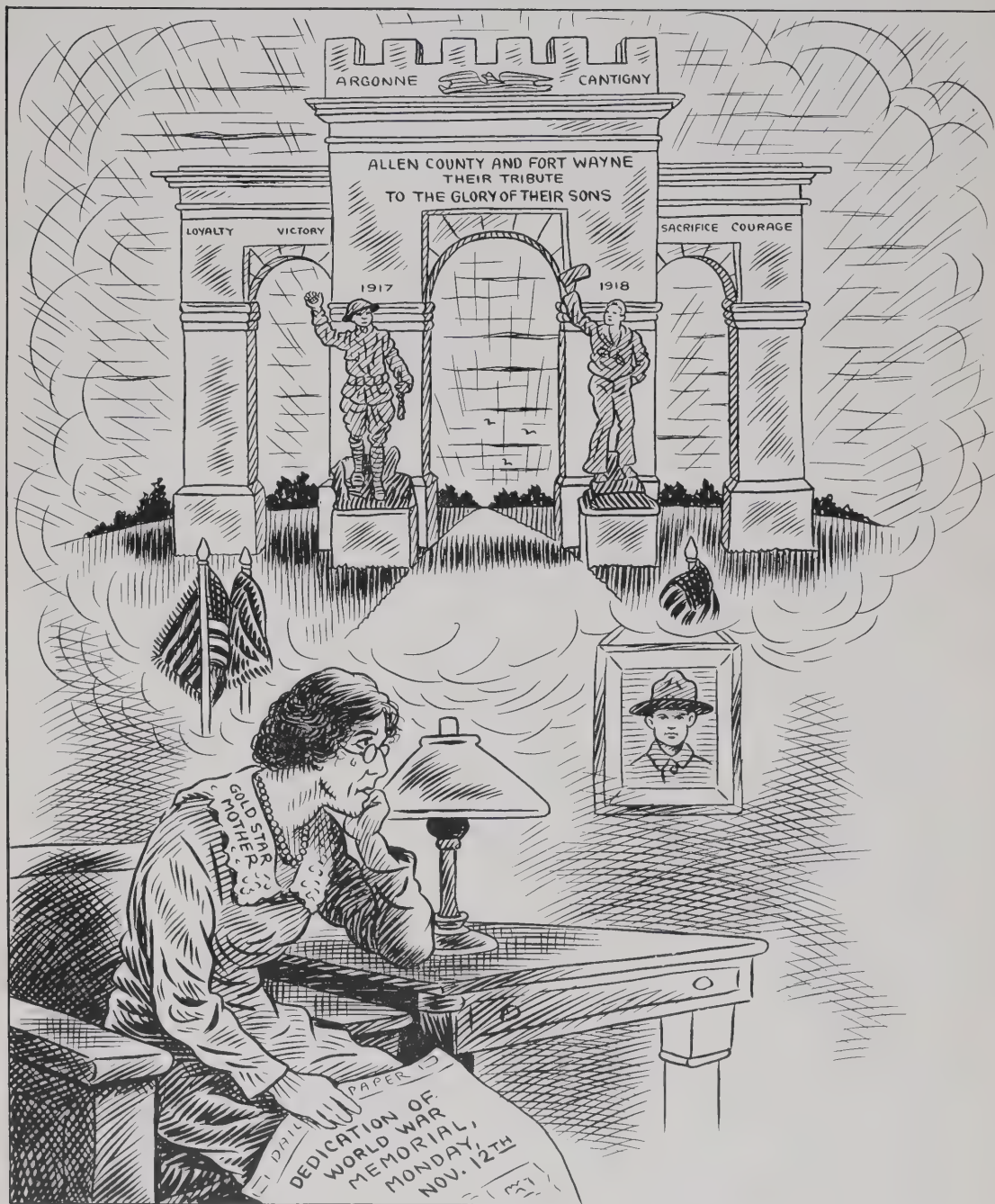


ALLEN COUNTY WORLD WAR MEMORIAL



Designed by Captain John K. Shawvan of the Muldoon Monument Co., Louisville, Ky. The statues, "The Spirit of the American Doughboy", "The Spirit of the American Navy", designed by E. M. Viquesney of the American Doughboy Studios, Spencer, Ind.

THEY HAVE KEPT THE FAITH



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